

The Angus Glens are a distinctive and valued part of Scotland's upland landscape. This summary draws on a report bringing together, for the first time, a consistent and transparent account of the economic, environmental and social impacts of moorland management across seven estates in 2025.

Moorland Management in the Angus Glens. *Impacts from 2025.*

Landholdings

The seven landholdings that contributed to this report collectively manage a substantial area, approximately **60%** of the Angus Glens.

54,715 HECTARES OF LAND

The Angus Glens are not defined by a single land use, these landholdings illustrate an interconnected working landscape, where multiple objectives are delivered:

Food production

Habitat management

Sporting activity

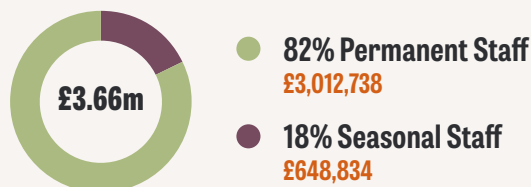
Rural employment

Biodiversity enhancement

People & Jobs

Moorland management supports a significant workforce and plays a central role in sustaining rural communities.

£3.66m COMBINED INVESTMENT IN EMPLOYMENT



Moorland management supports both permanent careers and flexible, seasonal employment. Estates act as local employment hubs in sparsely populated areas, reinforcing the link between jobs and community sustainability.

Estates support rural communities.



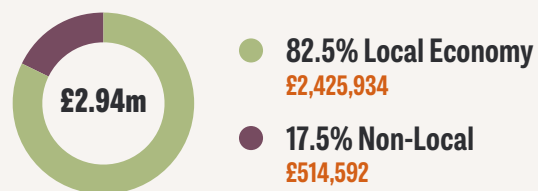
68 homes provided by estates, of which **23** house school-age children.

A critical but often overlooked contribution to sustaining rural populations, schools and local services in remote areas.

Economic Activity

Estate activity generates substantial economic value through supply chains, local services and seasonal activity.

£2.94m SPENT ON CONTRACTORS AND GOODS/SERVICES



82.5% of this spend remains in the local economy, helping sustain local enterprises and a skills base on which communities depend, reinforcing rural economic resilience.

Estates support a diverse local supply chain.

Estates work with a wide range of local businesses, reflecting a broad and resilient rural supply chain that supports both specialist and everyday operational needs.



Construction & Groundworks



Agriculture & Supplies



Mechanical & Vehicles



Local Services & Trades



Plumbing & Utilities



Hospitality, Food & Catering



Fuel & Energy

The socio-economic contribution of these landholdings is not defined by a single activity, but by a network of employment, spending and community support.

Working with Others

The Angus Glens are a shared landscape, used, studied and enjoyed by a wide range of organisations, communities and individuals. Estates operate as open, collaborative systems, supporting access, education, research and emergency services.

A shared landscape supports public services & research.

Estates provide land access and operational support for a wide range of organisations, acting as platforms for research, training and operational activity that extend their role far beyond land management.



Emergency
& Military Use



Research
& Education



Environmental
& Public Bodies



Land Management
& Advisory

Estates invest in access & infrastructure.

Tracks are a shared resource across all seven estates, supporting land management, emergency services, research and recreational users alike. Investment in track maintenance underpins safe, practical access across remote terrain for both estate operations and wider public benefit.

£114,087 SPENT ON TRACK
MAINTENANCE

Nature & Biodiversity

The Angus Glens support a diverse upland ecosystem, with monitoring highlighting species richness and ecological function.

16

raptor species observed across the Angus Glens. Six species, including **white-tailed eagle** and **golden eagle**, were recorded on all seven estates.

Detailed monitoring on a single estate recorded **102** bird species, **145** butterfly & moth species, **146** plant species and **19** mammal species. Estates are actively managing for ecological health and long-term biodiversity.

A number of key upland species were recorded.

Many of these species are of national conservation concern, underlining the importance of well-managed upland habitats.



Curlew



Oystercatcher



Black Grouse



Meadow Pipit



Lapwing



Golden Plover



Skylark



● Red Listed UK Conservation Status

● Amber Listed UK Conservation Status

The Angus Glens are not simply a landscape of single-purpose land use, but a dynamic ecological system.

What's Needed

Privately funded estates in the Angus Glens are delivering for **people**, **jobs** and **nature**.

With the right support, the Angus Glens can continue to be a stronghold for **biodiversity**, a driver of **rural employment** and **economic activity** and a model for integrated upland management.

The opportunity now is for decision-makers to recognise this contribution and build on what is working. **This is a shared opportunity.**

A clear set of priorities have been established:

- 1 Clarity and stability in regulation
- 2 Recognition of active management
- 3 Support for integrated land use
- 4 Investment in people and skills
- 5 Alignment between policy and delivery

